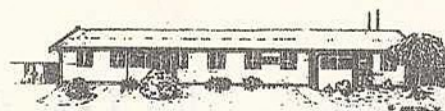


B.A.R.G. NEWS



VK3BML - BALLARAT

MARCH 1999

VOLUME 22 No. 3

Official Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. No: 6953T

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our members certainly display a variety of talents. Firstly Jeff VK3PAP demonstrated his skill as a very competent guide during our tour of the "Courier". It was interesting to see how the content of the "Courier" is processed, as well as the printing and compilation of the various papers. Many thanks Jeff for organising our visit and for the information imparted. From comments made the tour was appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to all who were involved in the preparation for, and in the erection of the tower. There were a number who could earn themselves a job as builder's labourers. For example there was Bob VK3BNC on the shovel, Neil VK3KQQ on the cement mixer and SWL Steve with the barrow, as well as those propping up a tree or shovel and offering advice. In particular watching Doug VK3KAY and Les VK3JEM hoist the tower into position was like poetry in motion.

From features in the local paper it looks as though Steve has taken over one of the local nurseries. Alas he is at present on the sick list with a spell in hospital. We wish you Steve a speedy recovery.

There has been a good response to the casserole night. To help catering, payments would be appreciated by the March general meeting.

Guest speaker for the March meeting is Richard Foales, who will be talking about his involvement with the lobster industry.

Thanks to Steve for the secateurs, Betty for the curtain material, and to Reg for the hoe.

Finally, I hope everyone has a happy and a safe Easter.

73 de Mary VK3FMC.

IT'S TRUE!

No-one has skin that is exactly the same colour as a Band-Aid!



email Addresses

It is proposed to compile a listing of all Club Members who have 'email' addresses. If you wish to enter your address please notify Mary VK3FMC.

CALL	NAME	ADDRESS
VK3 KQQ	NEIL	davon@mail.austasia.net
VK3 KAY	DOUG	ddi@tpg1.com.au
VK3 DMK	TOM	theatom@hotmail.com
VK3 BNC	BOB	terrill@giant.net.au
VK3 AAI	MURRAY	murray@felstead.com
VK3 ADB	GEOFF	smith@sebas.vic.edu.au

SATURDAY 17th APRIL

6.30 pm for 7.00 pm

Casserole / Sweets Evening

Entertainment Provided

\$10.00 pp - BYO Drinks.

Please pay at March Meeting

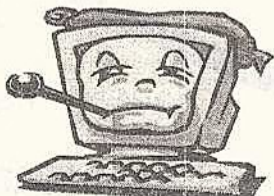


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THE ANSWER MAN

Jack Vakko directs the Information Systems Group at Avenue A Media in Seattle



QUESTION 1 : When does the New Millennium actually begin ? Is it Jan 1st 2000 or Jan 1st 2001.?

ANSWER: One would think that the new Millennium would begin on January 1st 2000, since this is the "rollover" year when all digits in the year change at once. But it is not. Technically the third Millennium starts in 2001 – thanks to a monk who wasn't the greatest judge of time.

Mathematically, the new Millennium begins after the previous 1000 years have been completed. If you start from the year zero, the first century was history as of midnight Dec 31 99 AD. It follows that the first Millennium wrapped up at midnight Dec 31 999 AD and that the second Millennium will end as of Dec 31 1999 AD.

THE ZERO PROBLEM

Well it didn't work out that way. The modern Western Calendar didn't start at the year 0. Credit Dionysius Exiguus (Dennis the Short), commissioned by Pope John 1 in 525 AD to create a universal chronology, for leaving out the 0 in his calculations. You can't really blame Dionysius for this. In the sixth century the concept of 0 as a number denoting the absence of value wasn't understood. Zero in fact wasn't invented for another 200 years.

So if we start the calendar at year 1, then the first century is completed as of midnight Dec 31 100 AD., the first Millennium at Dec 31 1000 AD. and the second Millennium as of Dec 31 2000 AD. This notion is backed by the Library of Congress and the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Cambridge England, not to mention a host of die-hards who maintain that the Millennium observances planned for Jan. 1. 2000 are 366 days premature – 2000 being a leap year.

Changing the date to accommodate a more mathematical calendar would probably not be very prudent. After all, not only would the day you were born change, but elementary school students would have to learn "In 1491 Columbus sailed the ocean blue". Not as catchy is it ?

QUESTION 2 : How does a touch pad pointing device work ?

ANSWER:

Humans have been pointing at things ever since we learned how to extend our index fingers. And since 1965 when Douglas Englebart invented the computer mouse, many people have worked to develop more refined ways to point at objects on a computer display.

One of these devices is the touch pad – a square or rectangular flat surface that senses tactile contact. Touch pads come in two varieties: capacitive and resistive.

By far the most common version, capacitive touch pads, are used primarily in notebook and laptop computers. Inside a capacitive pad sit two layers of tiny electrodes, one set vertical and the other horizontal. When these layers are charged they form a very orderly magnetic field that extends slightly above the surface of the pad.

When you touch the pad your finger rearranges the field. A continually scanning control circuit notices the changes in the magnetic field and translates them into cursor movements. Because the sensor is detecting changes in a field that extends above the pad, you don't need to apply any pressure with your finger to move the cursor.

Resistive touch pads operate more like touch screens, relying on a change in resistance from finger pressure. One great advantage of this type of pad is that you can use a finger or a stylus. Detecting the location of pressure is considerably more precise than what is possible with capacitive pads, so resistive technology is often found in personal digital assistants and in applications like handwriting recognition.



The Minutes

MINUTES OF THE B.A.R.G. GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 26TH 1999

The meeting this month was preceded by a visit to one of our local 'icons' - the Ballarat Courier. Jeff VK3PAP was our tour guide and we were treated to a well informed and interesting presentation of how our 'local rag' is produced. Well done ! Thanks Jeff, a top nite !

We adjourned to the club rooms where Mary welcomed all members and visitors and extended best wishes to those unable to attend because of illness.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were then tendered on behalf of the following members, - VK3s NIZ, DCS & Shirley, AAP, XDQ, HWK, ZHH, Kathy.

Moved CAZ / Sec.FGC

MINUTES: The minutes were presented and accepted as circulated

Noted: Photo / QSL some displayed. ..

email addresses of those interested to be printed.

Moved LDC / Sec CAZ

CORRESPONDENCE: Mags. - Amateur Radio, QST.
 Newsletters - FAMPARC, HBARC, Capricornia ARC, EMDRC.
 Great to hear what other clubs are up to. !!
 MAIL: - BCC Rental, Concord Ins. (Liability), BCC Report,
 Gordon York VK3ABI,

Moved BVI / Sec. DMK.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As tabled.

Accounts for payment - BNC Tower (\$52.60)
 First Aid Kit (AAI) (\$96.00)
 Newsletter (LBA) \$88.20, Printing \$68.30 and Coasters \$12.00
 BCC rent \$150.00, Superun Prints \$34.00,
 Van Leeuwen Tower \$100.00, Ballarat Locksmiths \$48.00
 WIA VHF Comms. \$60.00.

Moved AAI / Sec CIS

REPORTS:

AMENITIES: Various projects in hand. - Security Light, garden tools etc.
 Committee requests further \$150 petty cash.

EXEC. COMMITTEE: Recommendation that \$600 be allocated to purchase new refrigerator. Moved BNC / Sec. FGC. Carried .. 3 against.

CASSEROLE EVENING: 17th April. Contributions of Casseroles please.

EDUCATION: Four new class members next Monday.

TECHNICAL: Tower is up ! Many tnks to all concerned.
 Nicad charger mooted as project for Prac. Night.
 John Moyle contest - shelved because of insufficient interest.

WICEN: Indication from Gordon of preparedness for YK2.
 Courier Classic - Not this year.

NET: Both Clem and Dick indicate pleasing interest. RWZ seems to be back to former performance.

SCRAMBLE: Growing . DX from Geelong.

MEMBERSHIP: Welcome to Bob Brown - great to have you join the ranks.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Guest speaker for next meeting is Richard Foales. His subject -Lobsters.
 Note of thanks to be forwarded to Jeff VK3PAP

MEETING CLOSED 9.35pm.

Have a great month - Cheers Geoffrey !!!!!

URGENT

Tom (DMK) has 6 eager students
studying for their Novice calls
BUT

there seems to be a few books missing.

If you have a copy of
"Swainson's Radio Theory Handbook
for Amateurs" (a blue book)
belonging to B.A.R.G. could you
PLEASE RETURN IT A.S.A.P.
(It will be stamped with the BARG seal
inside the cover.)

THANKS.

GOT ANY JUNK IN THE SHACK!

Then don't forget Sunday
May 30th.
for the

**George Fowler
Memorial Auction.**
Start saving up NOW !

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

A/C ESTATE OF RON VK3PRJ

ICOM IC735 HF Transceiver
with matching Power Supply. - \$950.00

UNIDEN Bearcat Scanner
Model UBC 760 XLT - \$200.00
12V Home Brew Power Supply
\$125.00

ALSO AVAILABLE

KENWOOD TS180S Transceiver
with Desk Mike and External Speaker
No Power Supply - \$385.00
SAIKO SC7000 Scanner - \$150.00

Contact Bill VK3PH on 53301466

FOR SALE**ALUMINIUM TUBING (NEW)**

This tubing was to be a 3 element loaded beam
on 20 metres but unfortunately it proved to be
too heavy for my mast. There are 3 telescopic
sizes:- 2.4 m of 5/8" dia. 2.4m of 3/4" dia.
and 2.4m of 7/8" dia., also a boom 1 1/2"
dia x 30ft. long. (This is double the qty required
for the beam.).

If you want what I have for the rest of the proposed
beam I will throw that in too.

MAKE ME AN OFFER

John VK3CJB 5339 1014

FOR SALE

Sub-Audible Board

to suit **YAESU FT26** and other Yaesu models.

\$55

Contact David VK3YNB

FOR SALE

[1] **FT200** In excellent Condition
With Manual. **\$120.**

[2] **ICF 2001** Sony Receiver. FM/AM/SSB/CW
Excellent Condition / Manual
240V / 12V / BATT.
Only 310x171x56 mm **\$120**

[3] **FL50B** HF Transmitter
Needs some work
FR50B HF Receiver to match above.
Recvr. in excellent condition.
\$80 the pair.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE
BARGAINS, PLEASE CONTACT:

DAVID VK3 MI J on 5334 1084

OOPS !

Please amend your Members Phone List
which was published last month.

VK3AAI - Murray Felstead

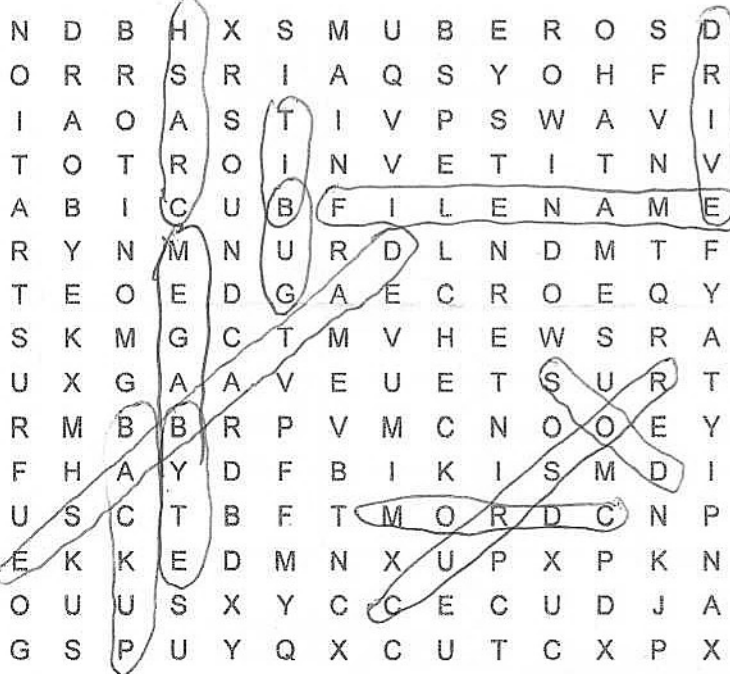
Phone number should be : 5341 2234

SORRY - (Ed.)

Could you please notify any other errors or
omissions. Tnx.

Word Search

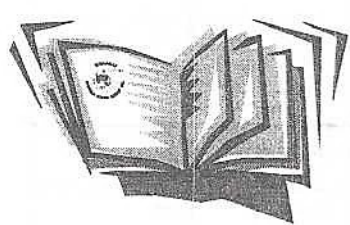
COMPUTER TERMS



- BACKUP
- BIT
- BUG
- BYTE
- CDROM
- CRASH
- CURSOR
- DATABASE
- DOS
- DRIVE
- FILENAME
- FRUSTRATION
- INPUT
- INTERNET

- KEYBOARD
- MAINFRAME
- MEGABYTE
- MONITOR
- MOTHERBOARD
- MOUSEMAT
- PRINTER
- RSI
- SAVE
- SOREBUM
- SOUNDCARD
- SPELLCHECK
- TEXTFRAME
- WINDOWS

Home used to be quite a place – when people stayed there!



B.A.R.G. LIBRARY.

Have you any old Newsletters or Documents relating to BARG

Our librarian (Dick VK3LDC) is still looking for Newsletters for Jan 1978 and Jan 1984. A reward is offered. Other old documents would be of interest also.



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BARG**March 1999**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 THEORY COURSE	2 CON. NIGHT	3	4 AMEN MEET NET	5	6	7 SCRAMBLE
8 MAGAZINE CUT OFF	9 CON. NIGHT	10	11 NET	12	13	14 SCRAMBLE
15	16 CON. NIGHT	17 COM.MEET	18 NET	19	20 JOHN MOYLE	21 SCRAMBLE JOHN
22	23 CON. NIGHT	24 WICEN	25 NET	26 BARG G.M.	27	28 SCRAMBLE
29	30 CON. NIGHT	31				

NOTE:

For inclusion on calendar please
notify editor by 2nd. Monday of
each month.

April 1999

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 AMEN MEET NET	2	3	4 SCRAMBLE
5	6 CON NIGHT	7	8 NET	9	10	11 SCRAMBLE
12 MAG CUTOFF	13 CON NIGHT	14	15 NET	16	17 CASS.NIGHT	18 SCRAMBLE
19	20 CON NIGHT	21 COM MEET	22 NET	23	24	25 SCRAMBLE
26	27 CON NIGHT	28 WICEN	29 NET	30 BARG GM		

**INFORMATION**

Friday March 26th. - General Meeting.

Sat / Sun March 20th & 21st - John Moyle Contest.

Saturday April 17th - Casserole / Sweets evening - 6.30 for 7pm.

Friday April 30th - General Meeting

Sunday Nights. 2M Scramble - 6.50pm. 146.425 to 146.600 MHz.

Tuesday Nights - Construction Nights - Clubrooms

Thursday Nights - Club Net - 3.610 MHz. - 8pm (8.30pm in Daylight Saving)

4th. Wednesday each month -WICEN Training nights.

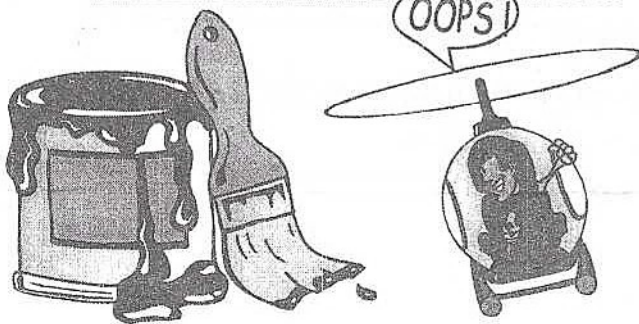
Thursdays 2 pm - Daytime get together - Clubrooms.

First Thursday each month -Amenities sub-committee meet.

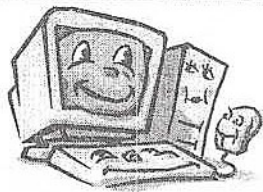
Paint Right

see Paul Bruty - VK3BWC
104 Skipton Street Ballarat
Phone - 5331-1680

*The Paint Specialists
who will assist you
with all of your
Painting Problems*



BARG congratulates Paul and Eril Bruty and their staff, on winning the prestigious award for the "BEST INDEPENDENTLY OWNED PAINT SHOP IN AUSTRALIA - 1998"



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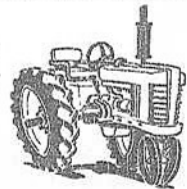
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500 ml.

ENGINE DEGREASER
400 gm. Aerosol and 1 ltr. Tins.

DWF for TIGHT NUTS.

73 Bell VK3PH

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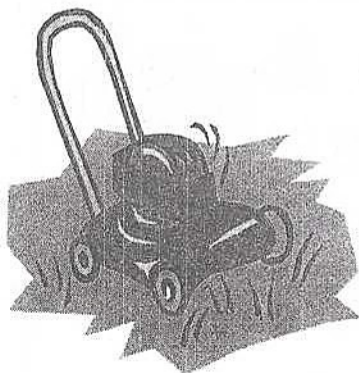
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JOHN GRAHAM - 03-5339 1097

99/03 8



MOWING ROSTER

MARCH – MARY VK3FMC

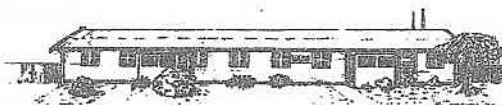
THANKS A LOT.

PLEASE NOTE

CUT OFF DATE FOR ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IS NOW THE
SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.

B.A.R.G.

The Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc.



A group of radio enthusiasts licensed to experiment with
local and international radio communications on an amateur basis.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME.

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.
Inc.No: 6953T

MR. G. CORNELL VK3FGC
304 WENDOUREE PDE.
BALLARAT VIC 3355

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NEWS

B.A.R.G.



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